

State Board Minutes
May 10-11, 2001
Des Moines, IA

The May meeting of the State Board of Education was held in the State Board Conference Room, Grimes Building, Des Moines. Board members present were Corine Hadley, Gene Vincent, Charles Edwards, Jr., Sally Frudden, Gregory McClain, Mary Jean Montgomery, Donald Roby, Kay Wagner, and John White. Also present were Department Director Ted Stilwill and Department staff members Gail Sullivan, Judy Jeffrey, Jan Friedel, Carol Greta, Susan Anderson, Ann McCarthy, Evelyn Anderson, Michelle Tosel, Paul Cahill, Kathi Woods, Jan Huss, Catherine Vance, Mary Sullivan, Tom Andersen, Beverlee Adams, Lana Michelson, Jim Graeber, Sandy Renegar, Mary Beth Schroeder-Fracek, Pam Pfitzenmaier, Iowa Public Television, and Laurie Phelan. Also in attendance were Joe Borgen, President, and Dave Palmer, Des Moines Area Community College, Jim Wise and Dick Christie, Urban Education Network, Robin Madison, Legislative Fiscal Bureau, Charlotte Nelson, Iowa Commission on the Status of Women, Dale Jackson and Dianna Engelbrecht, University of Northern Iowa, and Rod Boschart, *Cedar Rapids Gazette*.

Vice President Gene Vincent called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

It was moved by Mary Jean Montgomery and seconded by Charles Edwards, Jr. to approve the agenda as written.

COMMUNICATION

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Board Member Reports

Greg McClain – no report.

Sally Frudden reported she had attended a Public Hearing: “Leave No Children Behind: Impact of the National Education Budget on Iowa Children and School” with Senator Tom Harkin in her part of the state. Director Stilwill had been a part of a similar public hearing in Cedar Rapids. Ms. Frudden shared her excitement about attending the first meeting in the new Charles City child care facility that would open on

June 1. The culmination of this project was going to be a great asset to the community.

John White reported on the Community College Council agenda and the recommendation for approval of the programs being presented to the Board on Thursday's agenda. Mr. White talked with the Board about uniform tuition for community college students across the state. He told the Board that Joe Borgen, President of Des Moines Area Community College, would be attending today's meeting for a report on certified budgets and an update on budget cuts made by the legislative session. White felt the Board should be looking at the total picture and advocate for the entire education system; we needed to look at the inequity in terms of funding for community colleges.

Mary Jean Montgomery shared her experience of serving on the Omaha World Herald All-Academic Team in selecting this year's students.

Charles Edwards, Jr. indicated he had attended the Governor's bill signing for SF 203, budget guarantee, reorganization incentives, regional academies, and on-time funding language.

Mr. Edwards had attended a business-education collaborative meeting at the Downtown Des Moines School to observe their innovative model programs.

Kay Wagner had attended the Area 9 superintendent's meeting. Ms. Wagner shared the excellent conversation of the Professional Development School between Marycrest College and Truman University. This concept has many success stories: great model, unique program and proud of the effectiveness of the development of how the program has been culminated.

Gene Vincent indicated the selection committee of the Iowa Association of School Boards had chosen the outstanding school board in the state. Mr. Vincent had enjoyed working with this committee and said there were outstanding candidates.

Corine Hadley said she been in attendance at the Standards/Assessment Conference. The conference had fascinating conversations in how to align teaching strategies to standards and assessment.

Ms. Hadley indicated the Iowa Business Council had selected a new director and she felt the Council would play a more proactive role in education issues. Hadley had also attended an Alliance First national

meeting where the main topic was family involvement in the education world.

Don Roby reported he appreciated the tremendous staff and leadership at the Southeastern Community College where he was serving as interim president for five weeks. Mr. Roby thanked the Board for their understanding and patience of his new schedule. Roby had visited with Cal Callison, former Board member, and extended Mr. Callison's regards to the members of the Board.

Director's Report

Director Stilwill reported briefly on the work of the Department with the legislature and said the Department would now begin to work with staff and the Governor's Office to review and figure out how to implement the new legislation.

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes

The minutes of the April 19, 2001 meeting were approved with the following correction:

Motion: Mary Jean Montgomery moved and Charles Edwards, Jr. seconded that the April 19, 2001 minutes be approved with the following correction:

Motion: Mary Jean Montgomery moved to commend Earlham Community School District for recognizing the educational needs of Joanna Grillas and encourage them to identify the years worth of work in both courses on Joanna's transcript. Seconded by Charles Edwards, Jr.

Vote: Aye-Montgomery, Edwards. Nay-Vincent, Wagner, White, Frudden. Motion failed.

Program Approvals

The Board approved the following new program approvals with one objection by Mary Jean Montgomery regarding the disparity issue.

1. Secondary program through Northeast Community School District – Food Production Management and Services, Other

2. Postsecondary program through North Iowa Area Community College; Agricultural Business Technology
3. Postsecondary program through Des Moines Area Community College; Diesel Technology
4. Postsecondary program through Des Moines Area Community College; Automotive Technology Chrysler-CAP
5. Postsecondary program through Des Moines Area Community College; Industrial Machine Maintenance
6. Postsecondary program through Iowa Western Community College; Surgical Technology
7. Postsecondary program through Iowa Western Community College; Child Care Aide/Assisting

Legislative Update

Director Stilwill talked with the Board about the many legislative bills that Ann McCarthy had tracked this year and all the information that had been provided for decision-making purposes to legislators and legislative staff—a job well done. Mr. Stilwill provided a brief overview of the Department's role in providing critical resource information for legislative personnel, leadership and the Governor's Office during the weeks of the session. He indicated that Ann McCarthy would share information on the changes in state legislation and Judy Jeffrey would bring the Board up-to-date on major federal legislation affecting education.

Ann McCarthy, legislative liaison for the Department, gave an overview of the major pieces of legislation affecting the Department and education.

SF 267-Appropriations Bill– FY 01 Deappropriations
SF 203-100% Budget Guarantee;101% Budget Guarantee,
Reorganization Incentives, Regional Academies and On-Time
Funding
HF 191-Allowable Growth
HF 670-Alternative Licensure
SF 535-Education Appropriations, FY 02
HF 755-Standings Appropriations
HF 643-Statutory Revisions

HF 413-Teacher Compensation Funding
SF 476-Teacher Compensation Program
HF 719-Technology for Community Colleges, 21st Century
Learning Center and Nonpublic Schools-Oversight Appropriations
Bill

A lengthy discussion was held reviewing many of the bills and the implementation process as well as the effect of the funding cuts on the Department, schools, community colleges, AEAs and all education programs.

Judy Jeffrey, Administrator, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education, reviewed the key SEA issues in the federal Elementary Secondary Education Act proposals. Ms. Jeffrey outlined the following provisions that would be looking at significant change:

- Title I program improvement
- Title I state administration
- Reading First Initiative
- Title II-Teacher Quality
- Technology
- Safe and Drug Free Schools
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Bilingual Education
- Innovative Programs (current Title VI)
- Straight A's/Transferability

The Board discussed the tremendous challenge before the Department and schools in creating a plan to fit the federal changes being considered.

Community College Certified Budgets

Evelyn Anderson, Chief, Bureau of Community Colleges, talked about the statutory responsibility for approval of community college budgets. The annual budget report is prepared by the Department each year in an effort to provide the Board with background information necessary to review and approve these budgets. Ms. Anderson introduced Joe Borgen, President, Des Moines Area Community College and shared with the Board that Dr. Borgen was retiring. She wanted to thank Dr. Borgen for his valuable contributions and leadership during his years of service to the community college system.

Ms. Anderson also introduced Michelle Tosel, Consultant, Bureau of Community Colleges. Ms. Tosel reported to the Board the process that

was used to gather information and how the report was compiled. She indicated that each community college budget included in this report is the published budget approved by the college's local board. To meet the Iowa Code, this report on each community college's projected budget must be reviewed and approved by the State Board on or prior to June 1 of each year. State Board members were in agreement that the improved process and standardization on how the report was compiled was very much appreciated.

Dr. Joe Borgen, President, Des Moines Area Community College, presented an overview of how community college certified budgets are prepared. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to make this report and talked about the spending dollars for the upcoming year and the concerns with the budget cuts. We are recommending adoption of the certified budget report by the Board that will give us the authority to move forward with the expenses.

Dr. Borgen outlined a series of modifications that have been done to this point. There are a number of vocational-technical programs around the state that are being considered for elimination. These are programs that are rather expensive to operate. There are several colleges that are laying off staff in these programs as well. Colleges have eliminated staff positions and student work positions and with a reduction in student financial aid in Iowa, the student work-study programs will be greatly affected; impacting all of the institutions.

He pointed out there were many cuts in grant programs for community colleges. The Department of Corrections had their education program dollars reduced impacting community colleges as the provider for the programs and almost a million dollars has been cut from the ICN-Video support. Numerous other cuts are also being anticipated in community college budgets.

One of the major concerns is the cost increase in student and tuition fees. This increase will be anywhere from \$5.00 to \$15.00 a semester hour making Iowa one of the states with the highest tuition for community colleges in the nation. This situation limits access and choice for students and impacts the economic development growth in this state. These cuts present limited access to students and rural communities as well as urban communities. This trend would almost seem directed toward dismantling community college institutions.

There was a lengthy discussion by Dr. Borgen and Board members relating to the effect of these budget cuts. Dr. Borgen said he believed the community colleges have a tremendous contribution to make and there is a proud history of contributing to the communities and to the

young people of this state and in going forward I believe that they are even more important to keep in place. These institutions are a valuable asset to Iowa.

Sally Frudden and Charles Edwards, Jr. questioned what the Board can do to show their concern for these budget reductions. Don Roby shared his thoughts of having the Director contact the Governor's Office with these concerns. Stilwill felt it was a good idea for the Board to be on record with this concern and suggested sending a written communication perhaps to the Governor and the General Assembly, to talk about the impact of cuts on community college funding. Don Roby agreed with this process and thought some data may be added to this document to support the facts. Mary Jean Montgomery talked about the concept of the 2010 Task Force wanting to keep Iowans in this state. The community college is the best chance for being this economic engine.

Many of the Board members were concerned about eliminating AEAs from this communication indicating the communication of the Board needs to reflect that these dollars should not be taken from another education entity. It was agreed that a draft of this letter would be faxed to the Board for review before being sent to the Governor's Office and leadership of the General Assembly.

Motion: It was moved by Charles Edwards, Jr. and seconded by Kay Wagner that the State Board approve the community college certified budget report.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Director Stilwill expressed his appreciation to Dr. Borgen for being so supportive of him and the Department. President Hadley expressed her thanks for Dr. Borgen's contributions throughout his many years of service to the community college system.

Community College Personnel 2000 Survey

Janice Friedel, Administrator, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation, presented this agenda item. The survey format and categories of personnel were developed through a collaborative discussion and review among personnel from Iowa State College of Education, Iowa Department of Education, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees and selected Human Resource Offices of Iowa community colleges. Friedel introduced Larry Ebbers, Professor, Iowa State University. Dr. Ebbers and Ms. Wild of Iowa State University, have been very supportive of the activities of the Division.

They developed the survey and were responsible for receiving the results and tabulating them and writing the report. Gene Gardner, Iowa Association of Community College Trustees, assisted the Department to a great degree in getting a 100 percent response from the colleges. The survey was an attempt to get a clearer picture of what was happening across the colleges with their personnel. Friedel highlighted the following survey categories:

- Faculty
 - Vocational-Technical
 - Arts & Sciences/Transfer
- Administration
 - Upper Level Administration
 - Mid-level Administration
- Professional/Technical Staff
- Classified Staff
- Part-time Staffing

Ms. Friedel reported that in all of the above categories, the survey showed that retirements and a need for new positions will escalate over the next decade. This will be an ongoing challenge for the State of Iowa in maintaining the workforce necessary to provide education through the community college system. Iowa State has agreed to continue their assistance in conducting this survey in an ongoing basis.

President Hadley expressed thanks for the Board to Ann McCarthy, legislative liaison, for all of her hard work during the session covering all of the legislation for community colleges, AEAs, K-12's and the Department. It is very much appreciated.

Preparation Session for State Board Retreat

Director Stilwill indicated we have had numerous conversations with the Board on the retreat in June. Charles Edward and Sally Frudden have spoken with you on some aspects of that planning and it is all falling together nicely. One section of the format on Thursday morning is to bring in the other education stakeholders to have a conversation with what the future holds and what kind of common ground we might have. It will be an interesting context, particularly now, with the legislation and the changes that have occurred in the last month or so. In the afternoon we will look at the status of the strategic plan initiatives to take stock of the progress we have made and the results we have been able to obtain. This conversation will position you to look on Friday morning at priorities. This is my focus for today's discussion. First, I want us to look at the purpose for the priorities. As a Department we consider the

stages of policy development noted for every agenda item in every meeting. Namely:

- Issue identification (needs scanning, developing background, etc.)
- Board identifies priorities (which needs should be addressed; which actions would leverage change in other areas, etc.)
- Board analysis and study (what are the options for strategies to meet these needs; what is happening in Iowa, other states, countries, other sectors, etc. What are options for Iowa?)
- Board Action (putting the policy or policy/leadership recommendation/position in place; getting input and reactions)
- Board follow-through (monitoring the progress of implementation and the impact on the identified need)

Director Stilwill addressed how the Board looks at priorities today, indicating there may be some lack of clarity or shifts in thinking on their purpose. Clarifying this purpose and the relationship of these priorities to the work of the Board and to the Strategic Plan may be a necessary prerequisite for discussion of the priorities.

President Hadley indicated in the past the Board has done a good job in pulling up the priorities for the next year and the staff has done a good job in helping us to work through that process with analysis, study and support. One of the retreat items we need to focus on is the communication and advocacy piece of our plan.

Several of the Board members discussed thoughts about how the communication and advocacy piece and the priorities might fit together. It was felt that communication needs to enhance the priorities and need to be ready to implement a communication plan at critical times. Comments were also made on how the Board really needs to look at policy development and what it really means and how it works. The Board also needs to look at being responsive to messages that should be sent when they feel passionately about an issue.

Mr. Stilwill had selected some possible areas for future consideration based on: 1) unmet or fast emerging needs; 2) areas of need that, if addressed, would leverage solutions in other areas; 3) areas where the State Board might be particularly effective because of statutory authority or other positional leadership. These areas are not necessarily in order of priority. Some are extensions of the Board's current priorities.

1. Addressing the Challenges of Small Schools – Supporting Quality Education in Rural Iowa Department of Education
2. Leadership Development

3. Improving Teacher Quality
4. High Schools and Beyond: New Designs, Better Connections
5. Community Colleges – Funding the Future
6. Federal Policy

The Board had some agreement on expending further energy toward the K-12, higher education disconnect issue. There was feeling that a great deal of work could be directed to this wide gap in communication. Sally Frudden indicated the Board needed to be cautious in listening to the conversation at the retreat. There may be several other topics that will come to our attention other than the six listed above. President Hadley reminded the Board this discussion was just to get the Board thinking about the retreat agenda and priorities for the upcoming year.

Friday, May 11

Inclusive Schools-Rules Notice

Director Stilwill talked about the long journey to get to this point with these rules. He felt there were not abundant models in other states for how this should work. The last two or three years in working specifically on this set of rules, we have learned a lot; have thought the process through very carefully, and talked with hundreds of persons locally. At this point, we have a pretty significant set of rules that maybe will not change the landscape, but will provide some pretty clear direction and some protection for those students who probably deserve it most.

Judy Jeffrey, Administrator, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education was present to discuss with the Board the Inclusive Schools Rules for Notice of Intended Action. She indicated these proposed rules included in Chapter 12, General Accreditation Standards implement the principles and vision paper adopted by the State Board. Ms. Jeffrey introduced Tom Andersen, Consultant, Bureau of Administration and School Improvement Services; Carol Greta, Legal Consultant, and Mary Sullivan, Consultant, Bureau of Children, Family and the Community Services as the primary caretakers of all the work gone into this rulemaking process. Tom Andersen talked about the language changes that had been made after meeting with many groups on these rules. They also had to keep in mind that this language must fit with the federal guidelines as well. A great deal of time was also spent with Department staff in making sure they understood what the

draft of the rules said and what the implications might be for our own staff. Jeffrey indicated that a lot of time had been spent deciding about integrating these amendments into Chapter 12. Ms. Jeffrey went through the rules with the Board, discussing the separate issues with each section. With the approval of these rules, it is only the beginning of a long process of implementation.

Motion: Mary Jean Montgomery moved and Charles Edwards, Jr. seconded that the State Board approve the amendments to Chapter 12 for Notice of Intended Action with the addition of 12.5(19) *Homeless Students* section.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Urban Network Project for Aspiring Administrators

Jim Graeber, Consultant for Leadership Development, Bureau of Administration and School Improvement Services informed the Board that the vision of this project was through the Urban Education Network of Iowa. The Urban Leadership Development Academy was formed to prepare effective school principals utilizing creative programming and innovative delivery systems through collaborative partnerships that enhance teaching and learning for all children and respond to the dynamics and complexities of the 21st Century urban school environment. The Academy emerged as a partnership between the Urban Education Network of Iowa, the University of Northern Iowa, and the Iowa Department of Education to collaboratively prepare building principals for leadership in the UEN districts. Graeber introduced Dick Christie, Superintendent, Council Bluffs Community School District and Dale Jackson, Professor of Educational Leadership, University of Northern Iowa who were instrumental in putting this project together.

Superintendent Christie presented to the Board the concept behind the leadership academy. It was specifically designed to meet the needs of Iowa's eight largest and urban school districts, it can be customized and/or replicated to meet the specific needs of any kind or type of school district. A maximum of 24 students from the eight (8) urban school districts of Iowa who have met district standards and university entrance requirements may be candidates for the program. There may be 24 mentors chosen from the Urban Education Network, one per student, who are successful practicing building principals as determined by each member district. Mr. Christie also shared and discussed the program goals and outcomes with the Board. Christie indicated that all coursework is facilitated through the integration of the Iowa Communication Network and WebCourseTools (WebCT). This format enhances constant communication and interaction among faculty,

students, and mentors. The program is accelerated with many integrated courses and problem-based learning is utilized as frequently as possible. The two-year practicum is integrated into all coursework as well as coordinated with field mentors.

Mr. Christie said that pre-assessment is completed during the first semester. Formative evaluation of students and the program is continuous. Summative evaluation is performance-based and a review team of faculty, mentors and UEN Advisory Group members determine if students have met program outcomes (ISSL Standards). A two-year reflective research paper, a two-year portfolio, and a two-year practicum supervised by field practitioners are the cornerstone for the performance-based program.

Dale Jackson, Professor of Educational Leadership at the University of Northern Iowa thanked the Board for the opportunity to share the details of the program. Mr. Jackson introduced Dianna Engelbrecht, one of the faculty members in the program, indicating her availability to answer any questions from the Board. Dr. Jackson referred to Tables I and II in his handout that came out of an application to the Department of Education for a Goals 2000 preparation program grant. Within the proposal guidelines, it asked about what are you doing in terms of assessment of students, how programs are aligned with program standards and this information addresses those questions. Dr. Jackson referred to the frequency of assessment, methods of assessment and the analysis of reporting results and how they work with the state standards. He explained these basic steps:

- Entry into program
- During orientation to Academy
- Completion of 1st year
- Final assessment-end of second year

Professor Jackson told the Board how the methods of assessment worked into assessment timeframes. He also talked about the analysis of reporting results and the faculty review of the candidates.

Jackson moved on to share with the Board the key indicators of the ISSL for urban course content. The following standard indicators had been put into place for the program:

- Visionary leadership
- Instructional leadership (Principles of effective instruction, diversity & school cultures)

- Instructional leadership (Operational procedures at the school & district level, school security, human resources management & development)
- Collaborative leadership
- Ethical leadership
- Political leadership

The knowledge, disposition and performance sections were discussed for the urban course content. There was a discussion on performance-based activity and how this was taught. Overall the program was designed to meet the standards and the needs of Iowa urban school districts.

Mary Jean Montgomery expressed her thought on this interesting recruitment plan in tapping candidates for the program with leadership ability. She thought the consortium allowed sharing experiences and great flexibility in selecting these candidates. She felt this idea could be used in many schools across the state. Mr. Christie commented on the satisfaction survey and that one of the things we want to do better is how we train and support our mentors. Don Roby indicated he felt it was a great idea to share across the state. Dr. Jackson indicated that one of the significant factors was that the University of Northern Iowa has state of the art technology to use in this program.

President Hadley asked how the gender and diversity balance was in this program. Ms. Hadley also felt it would be a great idea to present this subject to the Board of Regents. Director Stilwill responded to the impact of this program. When the Board passed the rules it really needed someone to pick up the ball and run with it; the ramifications of what is happening here implements those rules and will have a great impact on the facilitation of the program.

Improving Iowa's High Schools

Mary Beth Schroeder Fracek, Administrative Consultant, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education and Pam Pfitzenmaier, Director, Educational Telecommunications, Iowa Public Television were present to talk about the steps being looked at for improving Iowa's high schools. The following three initiatives support the improvement of Iowa's high schools:

- The Regional High School Academies Program provides grants to fund 15 local initiatives for students in small, rural schools. Funding was awarded in the fall of 2000. An update of some of the funded programs will be shared.

- The work of the Virtual High Schools Committee will be described. The work began in September 2000 and concluded in April of 2001. The committee collected research and other information to use as the basis for early statewide discussions about the use of E courses and E programs in Iowa high schools.
- Planning for the Reinventing High Schools Forum held April 17-18, 2001 began in the fall of 2000. The forum explored innovative ideas for comprehensively improving the high school experience for Iowa students.

Board members talked about the eight states having virtual high schools and the successes and failures of these programs. Pam Pfitzenmaier talked about educating communities and the possibilities of how these high schools work to broaden and strengthen their communities. We need to be proactive thinkers in developing these high schools and regional high school academies.

Corine Hadley handed out a list of proposed topics for the June meeting.

President Hadley adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Corine A. Hadley, President
State Board of Education

Ted Stilwill, Executive Officer
and Director